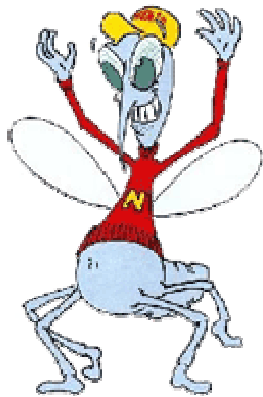


West Nile Virus Educational Project

South Heartland District Health Department

Hastings, NE

www.southheartlandhealth.org



Neato Mosquito- CDC

Develop Educational Curriculums for 5th- 6th grade children

- Best use of resources by modifying and using existing educational materials
- Adapted components of *Neato Mosquito* curriculum (La Crosse Encephalitis) and modified for use with *Culex* mosquitoes and West Nile Virus
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/Arbor/neato.htm>
- San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District offered variety of educational materials including coloring sheets, brochures, newsletters and games
<http://www.sgvmosquito.org/>
- Upgrade “Wheel of Fortune” style game currently used at fairs to include mosquito fun facts
- Utilized booklet “**Organizing Bug Days and Insect Fairs**” by Gary A. Dunn (February 1994, Special Publication No. 9, Young Entomologists’ Society, Inc., Lansing Michigan)



Mosquito Models

- Anatomically correct museum -quality models (polyurethane resin) of *Culex tarsalis* lifecycle
- Adult male, adult female, egg raft, larva, and pupa
- Adult mosquitoes approximately 14 inches long
- Artist: Dr. Lorenzo Possenti (Italy) ordered through Kathy’s Critters
(<http://www.realcooltoys.com>)



Water Jamboree—Educational Outreach

- Two day outdoor event hosted by University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension and Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Approximately 785 students (5th and 6th Grade) from 27 schools attended
- Groups of 20-30 students rotated through a variety of water quality and conservation sessions
- South Heartland Health Department hosted a 25 minute session called “**A Skeeter’s Life**” utilizing staff members
- Components consisted of : Educational talk, Group Activity, and Mosquito Lifecycle Model Viewing
- Emails sent to participating school teachers one month after the event contained a 5 question student post-test to be completed online. The survey results showed over 90% retention of material presented



Water Jamboree Educational Component

- Education topics: Mosquito Bites, WNV Illness, Mosquito Life Cycle, Breeding Sites, and Mosquito Protection
- Visual aids included a blue board with detailed pictures of the mosquito life cycle, examples of breeding sites and WNV symptoms



Water Jamboree Group Activity

- Reinforces information learned during the education piece
- Activity sheets included word searches, word scrambles, and crossword puzzles with mosquito information that was presented in the educational component



Water Jamboree Mosquito Lifecycle Viewing

- Each group had the opportunity to view live egg rafts, larvae, pupae, and real adult mosquito specimens purchased or collected locally
- Large anatomically correct mosquito models protected by Plexiglas cases emphasized anatomy
- Pictures from CDC used as reference with labeled body parts

Other WNV Educational Outreach Programs

WNV educational information presented to approximately 5,000 residents through:

- Two regional health fairs
- Three "Relay for Life" events
- Kool-Aid Days community celebration